

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02383 211029Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
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P R 211010Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4365
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2383

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CSCE PFOR UR
SUBJECT: CSCE COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JOURNALISTS

REF: STATE 031348

1. EMBASSY CONSIDERS PLANNED CONGRESSIONAL STUDY ON
WORKING CONDITIONS OF JOURNALISTS MOST INTERESTING
AND IS PLEASED TO ASSIST. QUESTIONNAIRES ONLY RECEIVED
COB FEBRUARY 18, BUT WILL BEGIN DISTRIBUTION TO U.S.
CORRESPONDENTS ASAP.

2. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, WE PROPOSE TO
DISTRIBUTE QUESTIONNAIRES ONLY TO U.S. CORRESPONDENTS.
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 02383 211029Z

WE FEEL OUR DISTRIBUTION OF QUESTIONNAIRES TO OTHER
JOURNALISTS WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE
BY SOVIETS, BY SOME OF THE NON-AMERICAN JOURNALISTS,
AND BY SOME OF THE OTHER WESTERN EMBASSIES. A
NUMBER OF THE "WESTERN" JOURNALISTS IN MOSCOW
(INCLUDING ONE U.S.) REPRESENT COMMUNIST PUBLICATIONS
AND COULD RAISE BALLYHOO OVER INTERFERENCE IN THEIR

AFFAIRS.

3. IF CSCE COMMISSION WISHES WIDER DISTRIBUTION,
WE SUGGEST STUDY ENCOMPASS WORKING CONDITIONS OF ALL
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS IN ALL CSCE SIGNATORY COUNTRIES.
EXPANDED SURVEY ADVISABLE FOR SEVERAL REASONS:
A) FOCUS ONLY ON WESTERN JOURNALISTS SERVING IN
EASTERN COUNTRIES LENDS CREDIBILITY TO POTENTIAL
CHARGES OF BIASED INQUIRY; B) INFORMATION GAINED ON
WORKING CONDITIONS IN SOME WESTERN COUNTRIES MIGHT
PROVE INTERESTING; C) UNDOCUMENTED AND GENERAL
CHARGES MADE BY SOVIETS ABOUT WORKING CONDITIONS IN
WEST MIGHT BE COUNTERED WITH RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRES
FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS IN U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES;
D) EXPANDED SURVEY WOULD BE MORE OBJECTIVE, COMPARATIVE
AND CAPABLE OF BEING JUSTIFIED AND DEFENDED.

4. IF WIDER DISTRIBUTION IS INDICATED, EMBASSY FEELS
WE MUST CONSULT WITH OTHER WESTERN EMBASSIES BEFORE
DISTRIBUTING QUESTIONNAIRES TO JOURNALISTS FROM
THEIR COUNTRIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, CSCE
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